

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEAN, EGEN

SUBJECT: US-ASEAN MINISTERIAL - POSSIBLE NEW YORK PROGRAM

REF: (A) STATE 179553 (B) MANILA 11714

1. CONCERNING POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES IN NEW YORK IN CONNECTION WITH THE US-ASEAN MINISTERIAL, THE ASIA SOCIETY IS PREPARED TO HOLD A LUNCHEON ON AUGUST 7 WITH A GUEST SPEAKER OR SPEAKERS FROM ASEAN IF WE CAN GET ARRANGEMENTS COMPLETED IN TIME. AS IT STANDS, THE SOCIETY HAS BEEN IN TOUCH IN THE PAST FEW DAYS WITH THE INDONESIAN EMBASSY CONCERNING THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING MINISTER WIDJOJO ADDRESS A LUNCHEON
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ON THAT DATE. THEY ARE OPEN TO THE IDEA OF HAVING MINISTER RAJARATNAM MAKE THE ADDRESS INSTEAD OR TO HAVE MORE THAN ONE SPEAKER, E.G. RAJARATNAM AND WIDJOJO. THEY WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN CONTINUING THE FUNCTION INTO THE AFTERNOON FOR MORE DETAILED QUESTIONING OF ASEAN REPRESENTATIVES, IF ASEAN IS INTERESTED. THEY HAVE A NON-ASEAN LUNCHEON SPEAKER SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 8, BUT WOULD CONSIDER A POSSI-

BLE DINNER ON AUGUST 8, IF THAT IS PREFERABLE.

2. ACCORDING TO THE INDONESIAN EMBASSY, WIDJOJO PLANS TO BE IN NEW YORK ON AUGUST 7 AND 8 AND CONTACTS WITH THE ASIA SOCIETY AROSE WHEN EMBASSY OFFICERS WERE EXPLORING A POSSIBLE SCHEDULE. WIDJOJO HAS NOT YET MADE ANY COMMITMENT TO APPEAR. THE EMBASSY HAS ALSO BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE US ASEAN TRADE COUNCIL AND WIDJOJO HAS TENTATIVELY BEEN INVITED TO A LUNCHEON BY THAT ORGANIZATION ON AUGUST 8. WE DO NOT KNOW AS YET HOW OUR INQUIRY CONCERNING THE POSSIBILITY OF A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION MIGHT AFFECT THAT INVITATION.

3. AS IS CLEAR FROM ABOVE, THERE ARE EXCELLENT POSSIBILITIES FOR ARRANGING AN ATTRACTIVE PROGRAM IN NEW YORK. WE WILL OBVIOUSLY HAVE TO GET THIS COORDINATED VERY SOON, HOWEVER, IF WE ARE TO GET ARRANGEMENTS COMPLETED IN TIME. WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE CONCERNING ASEAN'S DESIRES IN THIS REGARD. CHRISTOPHER

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